REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 21-33 have been cancelled and claim 34 is currently pending in this application. This is meant to be a complete response to the final office action mailed on May 12, 2010.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

In the Office Action dated May 12, 2010, the Examiner rejected claims 21-28 and 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harwell et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,106,691).

Applicant respectfully submits that the above stated rejection of claims 21-28 and 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 21-33.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claim 21, and thus claims 22-28 and 31-33 for depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as applicable to claims now pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action dated May 12, 2010, the Examiner rejected claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harwell et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,106,691)..

Applicant respectfully submits that the above stated rejection of claims 29 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 21-33.

In light of the above, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 21, and thus claims 29 and 30 for depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as applicable to claims now pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claim 34 and thanks the Examiner for the expeditious examination and allowance of said claim.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that this application, as now presented, is in condition for allowance for the reasons stated above. Therefore, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider each and every rejection as applicable to the claims pending in the application and pass such claims to an expedient issue.

The foregoing is meant to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed May 12, 2010.

In the event that any outstanding issues remain that would delay the allowance of this application, the examiner is urged to contact the undersigned to telephonically discuss such outstanding issues.

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